

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,940,196 (LARDELLIER). Accordingly, claim 20 has been amended to further distinguish the present invention from the cited prior art.

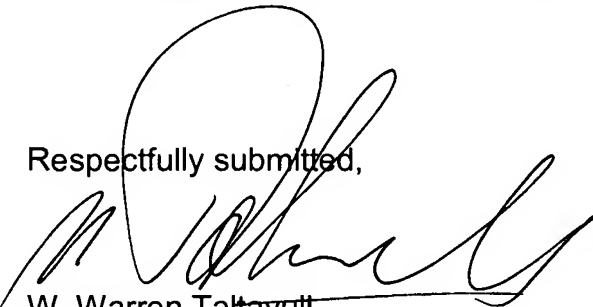
The present invention is directed to a method of removing a nacelle assembly from a gas turbine engine. The method of detaching the nacelle assembly begins with releasing a first attachment means 48 and translating the nacelle assembly 40 forward relative to the engine. The nacelle assembly is then disengaged from the casing assembly via the second attachment means only when the nacelle is translated into the forward position. More importantly, the engine remains fixedly connected to the air frame while the nacelle assembly is disengaged from the casing assembly as expressly claimed in claim 20 (Page 6 lines 2-6). Thus, the engine in the present invention is always attached to the air frame before, during and after the nacelle assembly is disengaged from the engine casing.

LARDELLIER discloses a method for demounting an entire turbo jet engine (Column 2 lines 67-68; Column 5 lines 36-37) wherein the outer cowling of the nacelle is configured to allow an engine to be mounted or demounted without completely removing the nacelle. The outer cowling 12 is divided into three sectors 12a, 12b and 12c and includes retaining structures 39 (See Fig. 1) which permit the absorption of energy should one of the propeller blades break free (Column 4 lines 35-44). LARDELLIER fails to suggest or teach disengaging

the nacelle assembly from the casing assembly via an attachment means. More importantly, LARDELLIER fails to teach or disclose the engine being fixedly connected to the air frame while the nacelle is translated and disengaged from said casing assembly. Therefore, it is believed that the present invention is novel and inventive over LARDELLIER.

Entry of this amendment is solicited, is believed appropriate, and is believed to distinguish the invention from the cited reference. For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance are believed in order and are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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